

A3 As a result of eager investigation of the present inventors to solve the above-mentioned problem, the present inventors have found that it is important to regulate a ratio of an empty space to an inner volume of the first hollow body to achieve the present invention.

Page 4, please replace the paragraph at lines 10-19 as follows:

A4 The present invention relates to a gas generator for actuating a vehicle occupant restraint device comprising a first hollow body with a bottom and sides, gas generants densely filled in the first hollow-body, an electric ignitor formed by housing igniting agents in a second hollow body with a bottom and sides then closing the second hollow body with a plug, and a holder positioning the second hollow body in the center of the first hollow body while fixing the first hollow body and holding the plug of the electric ignitor.

Page 4, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 20 to page 5, line 5, as follows:

In a first gas generator of the present invention, a ratio of an empty space to a volume of a space partitioned by an inner surface of the first hollow body, an outer surface of the second hollow body and the holder (hereinafter it is described as full volume) is less than 20 % by volume. The empty space and the ratio of the empty space by volume are calculated by using

A5 empty space = full volume - filling volume ... (1)

ratio of an empty space by volume

= (empty space volume / full volume) X 100 ... (2)

Page 5, please replace the paragraph at lines 11-17 as follows:

A6 According to the first gas generator of the present invention, because the ratio of the empty space to the full volume of the first hollow body is less than 20 %, the first hollow body is substantially full of the gas generants. Therefore, ignition energy of the electric

A6 ignitor is transmitted efficiently and the time for raising for inner pressure of the first hollow body is shortened.

Page 5, please replace the paragraph at line 18 to page 6, line 2, as follows:

A7 Accordingly, in the case an electrical ignitor with small ignition power is used, there is no possibility that an ignition delay occurs. In addition, because the first hollow body is substantially full of the gas generants, the gas generants are prevented from being powdered by vibration of vehicles. To ensure the above-mentioned action, it is preferable that the ratio of empty space is less than 15 %, further preferably, less than 10%.

Page 6, please replace the paragraph at lines 5-11 as follows:

A8 A second gas generator of the present invention is characterized in that the gas generants are powdery or granulated and filled in a compressed state, in addition to the above-mentioned characteristics of the first gas generator. As examples of compressible gas generants, there are powdery or granulated non-azide gas generants, propellant gas generants and the like.

Page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 8-13 as follows:

A9 A third gas generator of the present invention is characterized in that a part of the full volume is filled with a spacer inserted between outer surfaces of the sides of the second hollow body and inner surfaces of the sides of the first hollow body, in addition to the above-mentioned characteristics of the first or the second gas generator.

Page 7, please replace the paragraph at lines 14-23 as follows:

A10 According to the third gas generator of the present invention, an empty space between the outer surfaces of the sides of the second hollow body and the inner surfaces of the sides of the first hollow body can be filled with the spacer. Therefore, even if a form of the gas generator cannot be modified for reason of a design of a vehicle occupant restraint device, it

A10
is possible to lower the ratio of the empty space. As a result, the first hollow body is substantially full of the gas generants, thereby an excellent ignitability is obtained.

Page 8, please replace the paragraph beginning at line 21 to page 9, line 3, as follows:

A11
A fourth gas generator of the present invention is characterized in that the gas generants are compressed in advance and filled in the first hollow body so that a concavity, in which the second hollow body is inserted, is formed, in addition to the above-mentioned characteristics of the first or the second gas generator.

Page 9, please replace the paragraph at lines 4-15 as follows:

A12
According to the fourth gas generator of the present invention, the gas generants are compressed in the first hollow body in advance so that the concavity, in which the second hollow body is inserted, is formed. Therefore, when the second hollow body is inserted into the first hollow body, the second hollow body is surrounded by the gas generants. The ignition energy of the electric ignitor is transmitted to the gas generants surrounding the second hollow body without waste. Therefore, there is no possibility that an ignition delay occurs. For compressing the gas generants into a concave shape in the first hollow body, convex compressing tools may be used.

Page 9, please replace the paragraph at lines 16-22 as follows:

A13
A fifth generator of the present invention is characterized in that gas generants incompressible or hard to compress are filled densely and a part of the full volume is filled with the spacer inserted between the outer surfaces of the sides of the second hollow body and the inner surfaces of the sides of the first hollow body, in addition to the above-mentioned characteristics of the first gas generator.

Page 12, please replace the paragraph at lines 7-15 as follows: